

# Yeovil want a dream team!

By Phil Simpson

YEOVIL TOWN chairman John Fry is edging closer to seeing his dream of a team full of Somerset's finest.

The Huish Park chief, who spends most of his waking hours at the club, believes local talent must be brought through to help safeguard Yeovil's future.

"We have set up a scouting network to operate from schoolboy and youth level up to the first team," said Fry.

"We will have a reserve side in the Screwfix Direct League packed with young players to provide resources for the club alongside the first team.

"There's a soccer academy based here to bring the youngsters through.

"We have three extra pitches on the site for under 14s and youth teams to play on."

The back-up team for manager Graham Roberts is full of people with Yeovil Town connections, be it ex-players or managers.

## Family

Mike Hughes runs the reserves and youth teams, with help from Maurice O'Donnell.

Terry Cotton, a former club captain, is the number two to Graham Roberts.

Terry's wife Jean is the club secretary, while the chairman's wife, Pamela, spends almost as much time as John does at the club.

"We want Yeovil Town to be a family club," Fry added.

"There has been a feeling of restriction at the club with this ground being built without a supporters' base."

## YEOVIL FACTS

Huish Park, Lufton Way, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 8YF.  
Tel. 01935 23662

Manager: Graham Roberts  
ICIS Premier Division  
1995-96: 4th

IN: Rob Cousins and Jerry Gill (Bath City, combined fee of £15,000), Lee Harvey (Slough), Tony Pounder (Hereford Utd).  
OUT: Kevin Dillon, Martin St Hilaire (Chesham £4,000, now at Enfield), Lee Francis (Hendon).

"These people are the financial future of the club, and we have increased membership and made it more open.

"There is a ten-year plan to build a sports and social club and bring in more sports.

"That was my original intention when I got involved as a director, but we had to put that to one side while we concentrated on securing the club's future.

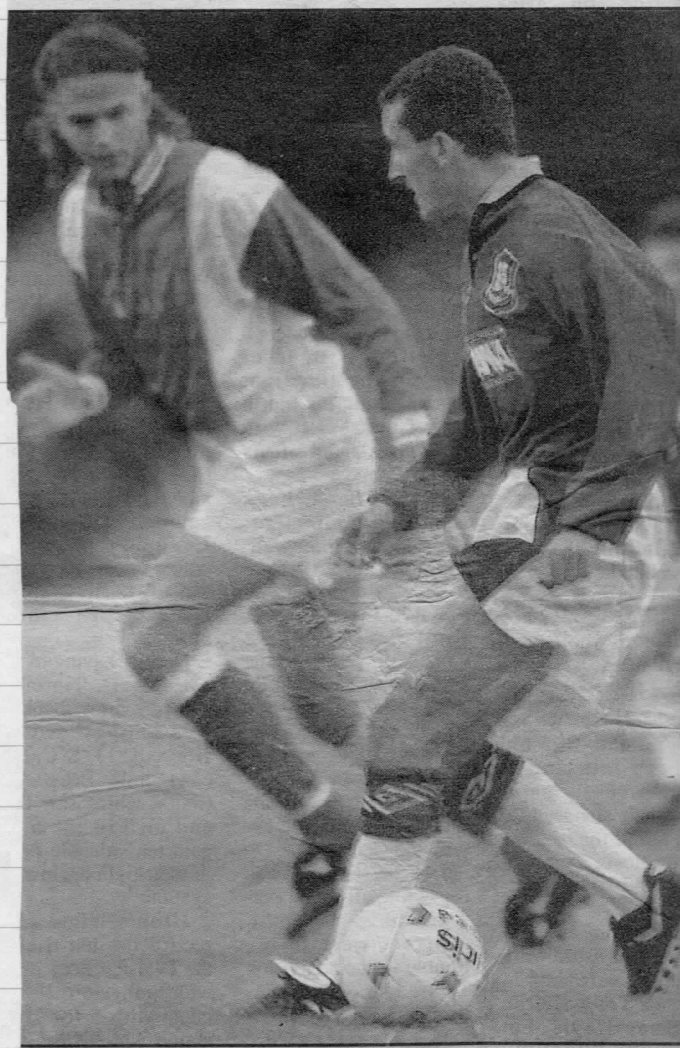
"A lot of money has been saved, and I marvel at the number of people who come in and volunteer to do things."

There are more than 1,000 season ticket holders, around 450 of them being patrons, and gates are up in pre-season.

"The town is buzzing and people are expecting a lot. You can feel it," Fry added.

"Graham Roberts has got his own team now and we feel optimistic of a promotion challenge.

"We have to do it this season and from here," he added.



● LEE HARVEY

Yeovil Town's centre-half Slough Town, kept an eye on for Tottenham Hotspur star Vinny Samways last week's pre-season friendly with Everton XI at Huish Park. It ended goalless.

Picture by Ian Andrews.



● MICKY ENGWELL - misses the starter